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little child." Extemporaneous tributes to the worth of Mr. Davis were made by Mr. Albion K. Parris, Mr. W. B. Bryan, Miss E. B. Johnston and Mr. M. I. Weller.

Present about 50 members and guests, with President Hagner in the chair.

LETTER FROM THE HON. JOHN A. KASSON ON THE EXPIRATION OF HIS NINTH TERM AS PRESIDENT OF THE COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 12th, 1906.

To the Columbia Historical Society, Washington:

I thank you heartily for your confidence shown in me by my re-election, so many times, to the honorable office of your President. I have been so much an invalid, during the last four years, that I have not been able to do my full duty by the Society. Many things that your President should have done, have remained undone; not by his will but by reason of his infirmities.

I think the time has come when my resignation should be accepted, and a more vigorous President elected in my place. The interests of the Society seem to me to demand it. My deep interest in the Society will remain, and myself—when health permits—will be present at its meetings. But its more important interests should be in other hands. I, therefore, decline a renomination to the office.

Very sincerely and gratefully yours,

JOHN A. KASSON.

On motion of Mr. M. I. Weller, the Chair appointed Messrs. M. I. Weller, Allen C. Clark and W. B. Bryan, a committee of three, to draft a suitable reply to the letter of our retiring President.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9th, 1906.

WHEREAS, The Honorable John A. Kasson has been President of the Columbia Historical Society since February 1st, 1897, by unanimous selection; and

WHEREAS, During these many years he has gained and retained admiration and esteem by his sterling traits of character, his unceasing attention to the interests of the Society and by his urbanity on all occasions; and

WHEREAS, He has expressed his firm determination to retire from the position which he has so adorned; and under no circumstances be induced to accept another term; be it

Resolved, That the Columbia Historical Society tender to its distinguished and kind friend, heartfelt appreciation of his disinterested and effective labors in promoting the objects of the Society; and that it express, in behalf of every one of its members, the fervent prayer that he may be spared for many years and enabled to be present at its meetings and participate in its deliberations; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be inscribed upon the minute-book of the Society and an engrossed copy be delivered to our cherished associate,

THE HONORABLE JOHN A. KASSON.